

STABILIZER PAD FOR VEHICLES

Related Applications

This application claims priority to and is a continuation-in-part of U.S. application Serial No. 10/387,898 filed March 13, 2003; which, in turn is a continuation-in-part of U.S. application Serial No. 09/996,013 filed November 28, 2001; which, in turn is a continuation-in-part of U.S. application Serial No. 09/920,148 filed August 1, 2001, now U.S. Patent No. 6,422,603, which, in turn is a continuation-in-part of U.S. application Serial No. 09/807,712 filed April 17, 2001, which, in turn is a continuation-in-part of U.S. application Serial No. 09/183,473 filed October 30, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,270,119. This application also claims the benefit under 35 U.S.C. §120 or 35 U.S.C. §365(c) of PCT International application PCT/US99/25381, designating the United States of America, and filed October 28, 1999. PCT application PCT/US99/25381, of which U.S. application serial No. 09/807,712 is a national stage filing under 35 U.S.C. §371, was published under PCT Article 21(2) in English. PCT/US99/25381 claims priority to and is a continuation-in-part of U.S. application serial number 09/183,473, filed October 30, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,270,119.

All of the foregoing applications along with U.S. Patent No. 6,270,119, and U.S. Patent No. 6,422,603 are now hereby incorporated by reference herein in their entirety.

1. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates generally to stabilizer pads for vehicles, and more particularly to pivotally mounted stabilizer pads.

2. Background of the Invention

Fig. 1 is a fragmentary view of a typical loader/backhoe 10 having a shovel mechanism 12, stabilizer arms 14 and 16, and associated stabilizer pads 18 and 20, respectfully. Hydraulic pistons 15 are used to operate each of the stabilizer arms 14 and 16 independently. In Fig. 1, the stabilizer arms are in an operational, extended position with the stabilizer pads 18 and 20 in engagement with the ground surface to